

#### **National Freedom of Information Officer**

**United States Environmental protection Agency** 

Mail Code: 2822T

1200 Pennsylvania Avenue N.W.

Washington, D.C. 20460



**RE: FOIA REQUEST** 

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act 5 United States Code (U.S.C.) 552 <u>as amended</u> I hereby make the following request as a private sovereign United States citizen.

This request includes all documents that have ever been within your custody or control whether they exist in agency "working" investigative, retired, electronic mail or other files currently or at any other time as they relate to the following:

- 1.) A full accounting for the reason(s) for the EPA Administrator Gina McCarthy attendance at the 44th/ Annual World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland from January, 22 25, 2014. [See Exhibit #1 and Exhibit #2]
- 2.) This request includes past and current EPA Administrators including all taxpayer and any non taxpayer related expenditures, including but not limited to transportation, meals and lodging related to World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland.
- 3.) All EPA Administrator's speeches and/or presentations such as powerpoint or text (e.g. Word) or a hard copy document of past and current EPA Administrators at the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland. Additionally, this would include any administrative debriefings whether in electronic format, such as powerpoint or text (e.g. Word) or a hard copy document.

The release of the requested information is not only in my interest as a private sovereign United States citizen but in the interest of the general public. I do not wish to receive under this request and hereby disclaim any interest in of the names of any individual USEPA personnel and that none of the responsive documents constitute "records" under the Privacy Act of 1974.

For any documents or portions of documents for which you assert specific exemption(s) from the requirements of the Freedom of Information Act, please provide an index itemizing and describing the documents or portions of the documents withheld. The index should, to the holding of <u>Vaughn v. Rosen (484 F.2d 820 [D.C. Cir. 1973] cert. denied, 415 U.S. 977 [1977])</u>, provided a detailed justification for claiming a particular exemption that explains why each exemption applies to the document or portion of a document withheld.

I request that <u>all fees be waived</u> because disclosure of the information is in the public interest (I am part of the "public") and is not in any way of a commercial interest of the requestor under [5 United States Code (U.S.C.) 552(a)(4)(A)]. Disclosure of the above information is in the public interest, in light of continuing budget cuts, as well as pay and hiring freezes because disclosure will contribute significantly to the public's understanding of the reasons for Gina McCarthy in her <u>official capacity</u> as United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) Administrator's attendance and participation at the 44th/ Annual World Economic Forum (WEF) in Davos, Switzerland.

If you have any questions about this FOIA request, please feel free to contact me by phone at 630 - 340 - 4351 or by email at thermal12man@comcast.net. Please sent the documents responsive to this FOIA request by electronic mail to the address above or by United States Postal Service (USPS) at 2997 Arbor Lane; Aurora, Illinois; Postal Code: 60502. I look forwarded to receiving the agency's final response within twenty (20) working days from the time that this FOIA request is received (i.e., no later than Monday, 06 July 2015).

### **Exhibits**:

- Exhibit #1: "Corporate Criminals, Billionaires Gather for World Economic Forum in Davos"
   [by Andre Damon (23 January 2014)]
- Exhibit #2: World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2014; Davos Klosters, Switzerland
   22 25 January; List of Public Figures

Monday, 01 Tue 2015

Cordially,

Michael E. Davis

Exhibit #1

Corporate Criminals, Billionaires Gather for World Economic Forum in Davos | Global R... Page 1 of 3

print

# Corporate Criminals, Billionaires Gather for World Economic Forum in Davos

By Andre Damon

Global Research, January 23, 2014

Url of this article:

http://www.globalresearch.ca/corporate-criminals-billionaires-gather-for-world-economic-forum-in-davos/5366045

The 44th annual World Economic Forum (WEF) began Wednesday, bringing over 2,000 corporate executives, major investors, government leaders, central bankers and celebrities to the Swiss Alpine resort of Davos.

The annual celebration of wealth and avarice follows a bumper year for the world's super-rich. Stock prices and corporate profits surged to new record highs, swelling the bank accounts and portfolios of the financial elite, even as austerity measures, wage cutting and layoffs slashed living standards and threw tens of millions more people into poverty.

On the eve of the forum, the British charity Oxfam released a study documenting the staggering growth of social inequality. Oxfam reported that the richest 85 individuals possess more wealth than the poorest 50 percent of the world's population—3.5 billion people!

The Davos conference embodies the emergence of a new global financial aristocracy. In attendance at this year's meeting are 80 billionaires and hundreds of millionaires.

The general tone on the opening day was one of "fragile optimism," according to a survey of attendees. There is a general expectation of more good fortune in 2014. But looming over the festivities there is also fear of the social and political consequences of the naked plundering of society by the elites represented in Davos.

The conference, which goes from January 22 through 25, has officially adopted the title "The Reshaping of the World: Consequences for Society, Politics and Business." It will draw 1,500 business executives, 48 prime ministers and presidents, and the heads of twenty central banks. US attendees include Secretary of State John Kerry, Commerce Secretary Penny Pritzker, Treasury Secretary Jacob Lew and Environmental Protection Agency head Gina McCarthy.

Panel discussions on topics such as "Regulating Innovation," "Closing Europe's Competitiveness Gap," "Higher Education—Investment or Waste?" and "Immigration—Welcome or Not?" are sandwiched between galas and parties for the rich and powerful. As the Washington Post quipped, "After absorbing so much info during the day, evenings are your usual party scene, devoted to celebrity-spotting, night skiing and such, and apparently a fair amount of alcohol consumption."

Davos' prestigious Belvedere Hotel alone has ordered 1,594 bottles of champagne and Prosecco, as well as 3,088 bottles of red and white wine,



Exhibit #2



COMMITTED TO IMPROVING THE STATE OF THE WORLD

# World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2014

Davos-Klosters, Switzerland 22-25 January

## List of Public Figures

Canada

Canada

Colombis

Argentina Mauricio Macri Mayor of Buenos Aires, Argentina Mayor of Tigre, Argentina Argentina Sergio Massa **Edward Nalbandian** Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Armenia Tony Abbott Prime Minister of Australia; 2014 Chair of G20 Australia Andrew Robb Minister for Trade and Investment of Australia Australia Minister of Communication and Information Technologies of Azerbaijan Ali Abbasov Azerbaijan Ilham Aliyev President of Azerbaijan Azerbaijan Governor of the Central Bank of Bahrain Bahrain Rasheed Al Maraj Elio Di Rupo Prime Minister of Belgium Belgium H.M. Queen Mathilde of Belgium Queen of Belgium Belgium Kris Peeters Minister-President of the Government of Flanders, Belgium Belgium H.M. King Philippe of Belgium King of Belgium Belgium Linah K. Mohohlo Governor and Chairman of the Board of the Bank of Botswana Botswana Brazil Antônio Augusto Junho Anastasia Governor of Minas Gerais, Brazil Brazil Marcelo Côrtes Nen Minister of Strategic Affairs of Brazil President, Brazilian Development Bank (BNDES), Brazil Brazil Luciano Coutinho Luiz Alberto Figueiredo Machado Minister of External Relations of Brazil Brazil Guido Mantega Minister of Finance of Brazil Brazil Fernando Pimentel Minister of Development, Industry and Foreign Trade of Brazil Brazil Dilma Rousseff President of Brazil Brazil Alexandre Tombini Governor of the Central Bank of Brazil Brazil

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada

Minister of International Trade of Canada

Minister of Finance and Public Credit of Calembia

Canada Pauline Marois Premier of Quebec, Canada

Canada Stephen S. Poloz Governor of the Bank of Canada

Canada Alison Redford Premier of Alberta, Canada

Chile Felipe Larraín Bascuñán Minister of Finance of Chile

Chile Rodrigo Vergara Montes Governor of the Central Bank of Chile

John Baird

Mauricio Cárdenas

Ed Fast

United Kingdom	Mark J. Carney	Governor of the Bank of England	
United Kingdom	Nick Clegg	Deputy Prime Minister of the United Kingdom	
United Kingdom	H.R.H. Duke of York		
United Kingdom	Justine Greening	Secretary of State for International Development of the United Kingdom	
United Kingdom	Boris Johnson	Mayor of London, United Kingdom	
United Kingdom	George Osborne	Chancellor of the Exchequer of the United Kingdom	
USA	Caroline Atkinson	Deputy National Security Adviser for International Economic Affairs, Office of the President of the United States, USA	
USA	Eric I. Cantor	Majority Leader and Congressman from Virginia (Republican), 7th District, USA	
USA	Bob Corker	Senator from Tennessee (Republican), USA	
USA	Mario Diaz-Balart	Congressman from Florida (Republican), 25th District, USA	
USA	Michael Froman	US Trade Representative	
USA	Al Gore	Vice-President of the United States (1993-2001); Chairman and Founder, Generation Investment Management, USA	
USA	Kay Granger	Congresswoman from Texas (Republican), 12th District, USA	
USA	Jeb Hensarling	Congressman from Texas (Republican), 5th District, USA	
USA	Darrell E. Issa	Congressman from California (Republican), 49th District, USA	
USA	Patrick J. Leahy	Senator from Vermont (Democrat), USA	
USA	Jacob J. Lew	US Secretary of the Treasury	
USA	Carolyn B. Maloney	Congresswoman from New York (Democrat), 14th District, USA	
USA	John McCain	Senator from Arizona (Republican), USA	
USA	Gina McCarthy	Administrator, US Environmental Protection Agency, USA	
USA	Claire McCaskill	Senator from Missouri (Democrat), USA	
USA	Patrick McHenry	Congressman from North Carolina (Republican), 10th District, USA	
USA	Rick Perry	Governor of Texas, USA	
USA	Rob Portman	Senator from Ohio (Republican), USA	
USA	Penny Pritzker	US Secretary of Commerce	
USA	Kasim Reed	Mayor of Atlanta, USA	
USA	Rajiv J. Shah	Administrator, US Agency Ifor International Developmen t (USAID), USA	
Vietnam	Cao Duc Phat	Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development of Vietniam	
Vienana	Pham Binh Minh	Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs (of Vetnam	

#### THE WHITE HOUSE

#### Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

January 21, 2009

January 21, 2009

MEMORANDUM FOR THE HEADS OF EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENTS AND AGENCIES

SUBJECT: Freedom of Information Act

A democracy requires accountability, and accountability requires transparency. As Justice Louis Brandeis wrote, "sunlight is said to be the best of disinfectants." In our democracy, the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), which encourages accountability through transparency, is the most prominent expression of a profound national commitment to ensuring an open Government. At the heart of that commitment is the idea that accountability is in the interest of the Government and the citizenry alike.

The Freedom of Information Act should be administered with a clear presumption: In the face of doubt, openness prevails. The Government should not keep information confidential merely because public officials might be embarrassed by disclosure, because errors and failures might be revealed, or because of speculative or abstract fears. Nondisclosure should never be based on an effort to protect the personal interests of Government officials at the expense of those they are supposed to serve. In responding to requests under the FOIA, executive branch agencies (agencies) should act promptly and in a spirit of cooperation, recognizing that such agencies are servants of the public.

All agencies should adopt a presumption in favor of disclosure, in order to renew their commitment to the principles embodied in FOIA, and to usher in a new era of open Government. The presumption of disclosure should be applied to all decisions involving FOIA.

The presumption of disclosure also means that agencies should take affirmative steps to make information public. They should not wait for specific requests from the public. All agencies should use modern technology to inform citizens about what is known and done by their Government. Disclosure should be timely.

I direct the Attorney General to issue new guidelines governing the FOIA to the heads of executive departments and agencies, reaffirming the commitment to accountability and transparency, and to publish such guidelines in the Federal Register. In doing so, the Attorney General should review FOIA reports produced by the agencies under Executive Order 13392 of December 14, 2005. I also direct the Director of the Office of Management and Budget to update guidance to the agencies to increase and improve information dissemination to the public, including through the use of new technologies, and to publish such guidance in the Federal Register.

This memorandum does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or in equity by any party against the United States, its departments, agencies, or entities, its officers, employees, or agents, or any other person.

The Director of the Office of Management and Budget is hereby authorized and directed to publish this memorandum in the Federal Register.

BARACK OBAMA

# # #

# UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ROBERT BERMAN	)
1915 Grand Court	)
Vienna, VA 22182	
Plaintiff,	)
v.	) Civil Action #
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,	)
MINERALS MANAGEMENT SERVICE	)
1849 C Street, N.W.	)
Washington, D.C. 20240	) <u>COMPLAINT</u>
Defendant.	)

### PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

- 1. This action is brought under the Freedom of Information Act ("FOIA"), 5 U.S.C. § 552, et seq., as amended, in order to compel the Department of the Interior, Minerals Management Service ("MMS") to disclose records wrongfully withheld after a FOIA request and subsequent appeal from Plaintiff. FOIA requires that federal agencies respond to public requests for documents, including files maintained electronically, in order to increase public understanding of the workings of government and access to government information.
- Plaintiff's FOIA request sought records that reflect on issues pertaining to MMS taking Royalty-In-Kind offerings for off-shore crude oil. MMS is a sub-agency of the